THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EN VIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) State/UT Governments have reported vacancies of frontline staff in Forest and Wildlife Departments.

(b) Yes sir.

. (c) and (d) Recruitment of frontline forest personnel is vested with the State/UT Government. Ban on recruitments, lack of financial resources etc. are the reasons cited by the State/UT Governments for not filling up che vacant posts. However, the State/UT Governments have been requested by this Ministry to fill up the vacant posts of frontline staff in Forest and Wildlife Departments.

Sabarmati River Project Phase-II

2202. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:
SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL:
SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cleaning up project phase-II for Sabarmati river has been approved by Government of India;

(b) if so, the amount of fund allocated to the project for the State of Gujarat.

(c) whether it is also a fact that the cleaning up project phase-II for Sabarmati river has been appraised and approved by Government; and

(d) if so, the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EN VIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The proposal received from the State Government of Gujarat for cleaning of Sabarmati River Phase-II at Ahmedabad could not be considered due to budgetary constraints. Accordingly, the State Government was advised to explore the alternative sources of funding including external assistance for the said works.

implementation of Forest Right Act

2203. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to give land rights to tribal and forest dwellers which will be applicable from January 1, 2008;

(b) if so, whether the Forest Right Act rules, which were to be notified in October were held back;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether all State Governments have considered and agreed to implement the Act seriously;

(e) if so, how many States have so far done it; and

(0 by when all States will be implementing this Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest

Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 for recognition and vesting of occupation and habitation rights on forest land to the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers has already been notified for operation with effect from 31.12.2007. The rules for carrying out the provisions of the Act have also been notified on l .1.2008. Copies of the Act and the rules are available on the website (www.tribal.gov.in) of the Minisry of Tribal Affairs.

(d) to (f) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is a Central Act extends to the whole of India, except the State of Jammu & Kashmir. After operationalisation of the Act the Central Government has addressed all the States and the UT Governments on 11.1.2008 to constitute various Committee under the Act and also initiate necessary action for recognition & vesting of forest rights in the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers under the Act, as per a time bound schedule.

Project of Forest Development Agencies of Gir

2204. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL:
SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:
SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been submitted by Government of Gujarat for the project of Forest Development Agencies of Gir (East) and Gir (West);

(b) if so, the amount of fund sanctioned for the project;

(c) the amount of fund released till date; and

(d) by when the remaining fund is expected to be released to State for carrying out the remaining work of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Two proposals namely, of Gir (West) and Gir (East) Forest Development Agencies have been received from Gujarat respectively for 224.86 lakh and 254.18 lakh during the Tenth Plan. The Gujarat Forest Department was requested to provide certain details and documents required for processing the proposals which have since been received. The proposals are under examination by the concerned division of this Ministry. Funds will be released if the proposals are finally approved/sanctioned".

Frame work to curb global warming

2205. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement was reached at Bali Conference on climate change;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any measures to cut industrial and power pollution were discussed in the Conference;